



Fisher-Titus Medical Center  
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May 3, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

We at Fisher-Titus Medical Center are pleased to participate in and support the proposed OneCommunity Rural Health Care Project. This initiative is designed to serve the north central and north eastern Ohio regions and has been created in response to the FCC announcement for a Rural Health Care Pilot Program. Fisher-Titus Medical Center's participation in the OneCommunity Rural Health Care Project will allow better patient care for individuals in the communities throughout Huron County, via a comprehensive, real time, medical information sharing delivered electronically to the point of care.

By connecting our medical referral centers east to Cleveland and Akron and to the west in Toledo, it will allow instant sharing of information, reduce expenses for patients and save valuable time in making referrals to major medical centers for critical patients. In many cases it will allow information to be at the referral site while the patient is being transferred for more definitive care. On a local basis, it will allow a sharing among the five local providers that make up Community Care 5.

Fisher-Titus Medical Center is the largest employer in the Nonvalk area and the predominant health care provider in Huron County, Ohio. Fisher-Titus Medical Center has prided itself in the ability to bring advanced technology and skilled physicians to our service area. The OneCommunity Rural Health Care Project will extend this technological capacity to include confidential sharing of radiology images, laboratory results and medical management across the health care continuum. This will reduce expenses for our community, individual patients and the payers of health care expenses.

Fisher-Titus Medical Center is a member of Community Care 5, which is a five-hospital limited liability company that works together to ensure services and reduce costs to our communities in the north central Ohio area. All five of the hospitals will be included in the OneCommunity Rural Health Care Project. All the CC5 hospitals are independent, community-based, non-profit organizations. Once on board with OneCommunity Rural Health Care Project, Fisher-Titus Medical Center and the other members of CC5 will have the decision making power to continue ~~this~~ initiative.

CC5 as an organization was preparing to file its own request, but by supporting ~~this~~ larger initiative we will be able to accomplish our local area needs and connect with a larger geographic area adjacent to north central, north eastern Ohio communities. This will allow for better direction with more return and benefit to our community than initiating our own local RHIO.

With the ever increasing demands for technology hospitals and health care providers need to develop on a collaborative basis, ways to conduct business. Along with the costs of increasing technology comes increasing costs for storage and transfer of information. Our CC5 hospitals along with other health care networks are continually looking for ways to enhance services without significantly increasing costs. OneCommunity Rural Health Care Project would allow FTMC, along with CC5 the opportunity to tap into this high speed internet technology at a fraction of the cost of us acquiring it on our own.

Thank you for your consideration of the OneCommunity Rural Health Care Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Patrick J. Martin".

Patrick J. Martin, FACHE  
President & CEO